

ARMY REVIEW COMPLETED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## OFFICE OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

\*ARMY Declass/Release  
Instructions On File\*

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION NO. 16

1 February 1951

FOR: National Estimates Board

SUBJECT: The Military Situation in Hong Kong

DOCUMENT NO. 16  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐  
☐ DECLASSIFIED  
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S (C) 1990  
NEXT REVIEW DATE:  
AUTH: HB 70-2

25X1

3. According to a US G-2 estimate, "the Chinese Communists are capable between dark and dawn of any night, of launching an attack on the Colony without warning and with no further build-up in strength," and the British forces on Hong Kong are incapable of withstanding a major attack on the Colony.

4. Indications of a possible early Chinese Communist attack on Hong Kong include the following reports:

25X1

a. Communist pressure on Hong Kong will be greatly increased around the Chinese New Year, 6 February [redacted]

b. 30,000 troops were moved into the Canton area during December (a large part of these may have represented relief for out-going units). Approximately 25 tanks, or possibly armored cars, were recently seen immediately north of Hong Kong.

25X1

c. Communist jet aircraft, believed to be based in Canton, have been operating in the Hong Kong area [redacted]

d. Possibly 1,000 Soviet technicians arrived in Canton in mid-December.

e. A group of Chinese Communists and Russians inspected the area near the Hong Kong border on 13 December 1950.

25X1

25X1

f. In late December or early January, city maps of Hong Kong were issued to Chinese Communist troops stationed north of Hong Kong [redacted]

5. Other evidences of a possible early attack are:

25X1

b. There have been increasing indications of Communist subversive activities within Hong Kong, including the caching of arms, and an exodus of Chinese Communist technicians and functionaries from the Colony.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~